

July 24, 2025

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE CPS ARTS EDUCATION PLAN 2.0: CULTIVATING CREATIVITY  
2025-2030**

**WHEREAS**, the Chicago Board of Education recognizes that arts education is a core component of a high-quality, well-rounded education that fosters creativity, critical thinking, social-emotional development, and academic achievement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board first adopted the 2012 CPS Arts Education Plan in 12-1114-RS1 November 14th 2012, establishing a formal commitment to expanding equitable access to arts instruction in all CPS schools; and

**WHEREAS**, Chicago Public Schools (CPS), through the Department of Arts Education and in partnership with Ingenuity and Civic Consulting Alliance, has engaged in a year-long planning process to develop a comprehensive update to this foundational work; and

**WHEREAS**, the resulting CPS Arts Education Plan 2.0: Cultivating Creativity outlines a bold and forward-looking five-year vision for the future of arts education in every school, for every student, across every neighborhood; and

**WHEREAS**, the Plan was developed through an unprecedented stakeholder engagement process, which included:

- Over 2,600 participants across 17 citywide and virtual roundtables;
- 12 targeted focus groups with students, families, educators, and arts organizations;
- A district-wide student survey;
- The formation of a 50-member Working Group;
- An Interagency Advisory Council with cross-sector leadership from city, state, philanthropic, and cultural institutions; and

**WHEREAS**, the Plan represents a pivotal shift from a singular focus on access to a dual commitment to access and quality, with two guiding goals:

- Goal 1: Access to Arts Education, ensuring that all CPS students have equitable access to certified arts educators, sufficient instructional time, a breadth of disciplines, and well-resourced facilities; and
- Goal 2: High-Quality Arts Education, defining and supporting rigorous, culturally responsive instruction through standards-aligned curriculum, developmentally aligned instructional approaches, professional learning, arts partnerships, and strengthened data systems; and

**WHEREAS**, the Plan aligns with the district's strategic priorities, including the Success 2029: Together We Rise framework and the Continuous Improvement Data Transparency (CIDT) policy, and affirms arts education as essential to every student's academic and personal development;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CHICAGO BOARD OF EDUCATION:**

- A. Formally adopts the CPS Arts Education Plan 2.0: Cultivating Creativity as the guiding policy document for advancing arts education in Chicago Public Schools through 2030;

- B. That the Board commends the CPS Department of Arts Education, Ingenuity, Civic Consulting Alliance, and the thousands of students, families, educators, and partners who contributed to the creation of this visionary plan;
- C. That the Board directs the Chief Executive Officer, the Chicago Public Schools Department of Arts Education or their designee to report annually on the implementation of the Plan, including progress made toward each goal and priority area;
- D. That the Board affirms its continued commitment to ensuring every CPS student—regardless of zip code, background, or school type—has access to a high-quality arts education that cultivates creativity, agency, and voice.